

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
2/4, ST. THOMAS'S SQUARE,
CHORLEY,

To :-

The Chairman & Members of the Council,
Adlington Urban District Council,
Adlington.

Mr Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Second Annual Report for the year 1946.

The Report is fairly comprehensive and I have no particular comments to make on the vital statistics except that the increase in the Birth-rate reflects the national tendency. The figures indicate the continued healthiness of the area.

There has been no cause of untoward mortality or immortality during the year.

I should like to take this opportunity, Mr Chairman and Gentlemen, of thanking you, your Sanitary Inspector, Mr Warwick, and your Clerk, Mr Edge, for all the kindness and assistance I have received throughout the year.

I am, Mr Chairman & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R.C.Gubbins.

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Area. | 1062 acres. |
| Population (Registrar General Estimate mid 1946) | 3827. |
| Number of inhabited houses (rate-book) | 1136. |
| Rateable Value | £16464 |
| Product of 1d rate | £64. |

BIRTHS.

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> | |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---|
| Live-Births, Legit | 39. | 33 | 72. | Birth rate (per 1,000 pop - 20.9 |
| Illegit. | 5. | 1. | 6. | |
| Total | 44 | 34 | 78. | |
| Still-Births | 2. | 1. | 3. | Rate per 1,000 Live & Still-births 37. |

DEATHS.

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> | |
|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| | 27 | 23 | 53 | Death rate (per 1,000 pop. 13.8 |


Death from Puerperal Causes Nil.

Death of Infants under 1 year. Male 3. Female 1.
All Infants per 1,000 live births (i.e. Infant
Mortality Rate) 64
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 69.
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illeg. live births Nil.

Death from Cancer (all ages) 8.
Death from Measles Do. Nil.
Death from Whooping Cough (all ages) Nil.
Death from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) Nil.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

| | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Tuberculosis | 2. | 1. |
| Influenza | 1. | 1. |
| Cancer | 1. | 7. |
| Heart Disease. | 11. | 15. |
| Other Circulatory Disease | - | 1. |
| Bronchitis and other Diseases. | 4. | - |
| Other Digestive Diseases. | 1. | - |
| Nephritis | 1. | - |
| Other Violent Causes. | 4. | - |
| All other Causes. | 1. | 1. |
| Congenital Malformations. | 1. | 2. |
| | <u>26</u> | <u>27</u> |



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28797139>

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Staff.

Medical Officer of Health :- Robert C.Gubbins M.B. Ch.B. D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector (Part time) Thomas Warwick R.S.I.(Surveyor)

Laboratory Facilities :-

Pathological Dept. Wigan Royal Victoria Infirmary.
Public Health Laboratory, Manchester University.

Ambulance Facilities :-

Infectious Cases - Ambulance of the Chorley & District Joint Hospital Board.

Non-Infectious Cases - By arrangement with the Chorley Corporation.

This service is adequate and satisfactory.

Nursing in the Home.

There is one "District Nurse" practising in the area. She is employed by the Adlington District Nursing Association and is Nurse Holden, Rivington Avenue, Adlington.

Treatment Clinics.

(All administered by the Lancashire County Council).

Maternity & Child Welfare Centres - See next section.

School Clinics.

The "Minor Ailment Clinic" is held at 20, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley each Thursday at 10 a.m.

Ancillary School Clinics (Orthopaedic, Nose & Throat, Eye etc) are held at Chorley, and attended by Practitioners of Specialist status.

Tuberculosis Clinic.

The County Dispensary, 30, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley.
The County Tuberculosis Officer (Dr Villiers) attends each Tuesday at 10 a.m. This Clinic is also used as a consultant clinic for chest conditions other than tuberculosis.

Venereal Disease Clinics - held at Chorley & District Hospital, Wigan Infirmary and Bolton Royal Infirmary.

The Sessions at the Chorley & District Hospital, attended by the County Venerologist, are as follows :-

Tuesdays - Females 4.30 to 5.30 p.m.
Males. 5.30 to 7 p.m.

Thursdays Females. 10 to 11 a.m.
Males 11 to 12 a.m.

Hospital Facilities.

For Non-Infectious Cases - Chorley & District Hospital, Wigan Victoria Infirmary and Bolton Royal Infirmary.

For Infectious Cases - Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock.
(Chorley & District Joint Hospital Board).

Tuberculosis - Sanatorium (50 beds) at Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock. (Administered by Lancs.C.C.)

Small-pox - Small-pox hospital at Finnington, by arrangement between the Chorley Joint Hospital Board and the Blackburn Corporation.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(These services are administered by the Lancashire C.C.)

Domiciliary Facilities :-

There is one salaried midwife, employed by the Lancashire County Council practising in the area:- Mrs Sturgess, Railway Road, Adlington (Tel 239) This nurse attended 49 cases in 1946.

Ante-natal Clinics :-

The large majority of the expectant mothers in the area attend the ante-natal Clinic at 2/4 St. Thomas's Square, Chorley and avail themselves of the excellent facilities provided by the Chorley Corporation (by arrangement with the County Authority)

These clinics are held on Mondays (at 2 p.m.) and Thursdays (9-12a.m.) and are attended on the latter day by Mr D.C. Wiseman, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G., who also attends in a consultant capacity at the Chorley & District Hospital, and the Preston Royal Infirmary.

The number of cases attending in 1946 (from this area) was 66.

Maternity Beds.

The available accommodation at Chorley is as follows :-

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------|
| Chorley & District Hospital | - | 20 beds. |
| Eaves Lane P.A. Institution | - | 12 beds. |
| Private Nursing Home | - | 4 beds. |

Some few cases find accommodation at Bolton and Preston.

Infant Welfare Centres.

An Infant Welfare Clinic is held weekly (Wednesdays 2-4p.m.) at the Christ Church Schoolroom, Adlington, and is attended by a Medical Officer of the Lancashire County Council as well as the County Health Visitor

Health Visitor.

The County's Health Visitor for the area is Mrs Arkwright, of Pleasington (Tel. Pleasington 130).

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply to the area is provided from

(1) The Blackrod Reservoir (by the arrangement with the Blackrod U.D.C.)

(2) From a tapping of the conduits taking the Manchester supply from Thirlmere (by arrangement with the Manchester Corporation.

The water from both sources is adequate in quantity and satisfactory in quality.

Every house in the area has a "mains supply". The average daily consumption is nearly 82,000 gals, which gives a consumption per head of 20.09 gals daily. The supplies are interchangeable and complementary.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Only some 34 outlying properties are not connected to the sewerage system. These have septic tanks. The sewerage disposal is by precipitation and filtration over 3 coke filters, at the sewerage Disposal Works at Harrison's Farm. The effluent is discharged into the River Douglas. The sewage works was modernised in 1931.

No extensions of sewers were undertaken in 1946.

Rivers and Streams.

These are inspected at intervals by the Inspectors of the Lancashire Rivers Board.

No complaints of pollution were made during the year.

Refuse collection and disposal.

1181 moveable ashbins are emptied weekly by the Local Authority's vehicle.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at 3 sites.

Cleansing of drains and closets.

Closet accommodation :-

Privy Middens :- No. of Middens 10.

No. of closets attached thereto 12.

Pail Closets 1.

No. of fresh water closets 1115.

No. of waste water closets 8.

1 Privy closet and 1 wash-water closet were converted to fresh-water closets during the year.

The onus for the satisfactory maintenance of drains and closets is upon the property owners, and such work is not undertaken by the Local Authority.

Lavatories and Urinals.

There are public lavatories at the upper and lower recreation grounds and a public urinal near the Council Offices. This latter sadly needs modernising. These conveniences are cleaned daily by the Local Authority.

Shops and Offices.

There are from 90-100 registered shops in the area. No action was taken under the Shops Acts, or Public Health Act 1936 during the year. The County Council are responsible for the administration of the Shops Acts, your Sanitary Inspector acting as their agent.

Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the area.
One Caravan is licensed for living purposes.

Smoke Abatement.

| | |
|---|-----|
| No. of factory and works chimneys in area | 3. |
| No. of observations taken during the year | 16. |

No legal proceedings were undertaken for excessive smoke emissions during the year, but co-operative measures were undertaken by one firm to make improvements reducing the emission of smoke.

Application for Bye-laws to control smoke nuisances has been made to the Ministry of Health, but such bye-laws, are unfortunately, not being sanctioned at the present time.

Disinfestation of houses.

No houses were found to be infected during 1946.

Schools.

The water supply of the schools is from the mains.
The drainage from the National (C.ofE.) Schools is by trough closets. Doubtless this unsatisfactory method will be remedied when reorganisation can take place.

Other matters.

There are in the area no Common lodging houses or "houses let in lodgings" registered, no swimming baths or pools, no underground sleeping rooms, no premises where rag flock is manufactured, and no premises for the undertaking of offensive trades.

Summary of Sanitary Inspections.

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| No. of premises visited. | 39. |
| Visits made to above | 78. |
| No. of nuisances discovered. | 3. |
| No. of nuisances abated. | 3. |
| No. of informal notices served | 3. |
| No. of statutory notices served | Nil. |

HOUSING.

No. of new houses erected during the year :-

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| (1) By Local Authority | Nil. |
| (2) By other Local Authorities. | Nil. |
| (3) By other bodies or persons. | 4. |

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year.

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1.(a) No. of houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts | 39. |
| (b) No. of inspections made for the purpose | 78. |
| 2. No. of houses (included under sub-head (1) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations | Nil. |
| No. of inspections made for the purpose | Nil. |
| 3. No. of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | Nil. |
| 4. No. of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation. | 33. |

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| No. of dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. | 33. |
|--|-----|

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

A. Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act 1936

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil. |
| (2) No. of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice | |
| (a) By Owners. | Nil. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil. |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Act.

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. | Nil. |
| (2) No. of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after serving of formal notices | |
| (a) By Owners | Nil. |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. | Nil. |

Housing Conditions.

Most of the houses in the area are of the "two up, two down" type, and lack baths or a hot water supply. Like most of the sub-standard houses built some 80 years or more ago they were well built and with reasonable maintenance are difficult to condemn as unfit for human habitation.

Housing Schemes.

In 1946 building was started on an approved scheme of 50 houses by the Local Authority, and 9 by Private treaty.

Overcrowding.

There are a considerable number of cases of overcrowding. This is chiefly due to the return of men and women from the Forces and their subsequent marriage, with the additional factor of sexual overcrowding due to the passage of years during which, although children have been growing up, no houses have been built.

INFECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

The following number of milk traders were on the register at 31st December 1946.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Retail purveyors and producers (cowkeepers) | 9. |
| Retail purveyors other than the above | Nil. |
| Retail purveyors from outside the area | Nil. 14. |

No licences were issued by the County Council for the production of milk (in the area) under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-46. (i.e. For Tuberculosis Tested "Accredited" or "Pasteurised")

The rationing and control of milk distribution inaugurated during the late war still continues. The central control inherent in this has made the supervision of the quality of milk extremely difficult, and calls for constant action by your servants, and in particular for co-operative action with the servants of other local authorities.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

In area such as Adlington which is neither large enough to be a "scheduled area" for the heat treatment of milk, nor possesses a pasteurisation plant within its precincts, there is an especial need for supervision of the farms and dairies.

A Special Report on these was made to the Council in May of the year under review.

Improvements were started, during the year, in the following cases :-

Crawshaw Hall Farm - remodelling of 2 shippens.
Castle House Farm - new dairy and alterations to shippens.
Harrison's Farm - improvements to shippens.
Fair View Farm - new water supply and alteration to dairy.

| | |
|---|------|
| No. of inspections to the 9 farms during the year | 27. |
| Formal action by Local Authority | Nil. |

(b) Meat.

The meat supply to the area is distributed from the Chorley Public Abattoirs (at present under the Ministry of Health) where there is 100% inspection of carcasses.

(c) Other Foods.

Places where other foods are prepared, or kept for sale, are inspected frequently by your Sanitary Inspector.

PREVALENCE OF, and CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year, the following cases were notified to :-

| | | |
|----------------|-----|--------|
| | | (1945) |
| Measles | 31. | (76) |
| Scarlet Fever | 3. | (5) |
| Whooping Cough | 3. | (49.) |
| Pneumonia | 2. | (10.) |
| Erysipelas. | 1. | (1.) |

The figures in brackets are the numbers notified in 1945 and manifest the improvement in the number of notifications during the year.

The cases of measles occurred mostly in February and March.

Diphtheria.

It is again gratifying to note that there were no cases of diphtheria notified (for the second successive year).

54 pre-school children (i.e. under 5 years of age) and 2 school children completed a course of immunisation during the year.

The following numbers of the child population have now been immunised :-

| <u>Under 5 years</u> | <u>5-15 years</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 331 | 500 | 831. |

This is over 90% of the estimated child population (under 15 years of age) in the Area.

Tuberculosis.

3 New cases of Pulmonary and 5 new cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were added to the Register during the year. There was one death from Pulmonary and 2 from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

